

As we enter the final three weeks of the 2003 National Advanced Leadership Camp, I continue to be tremendously impressed and inspired by the energy, enthusiasm, and strong performance of each cadet regiment. It is a pleasure to watch proud, fit, competent platoons pass in review at the graduation ceremony. We have already graduated eight regiments comprising 2,910 cadets, 149 of whom were commissioned right there on Watkins Field. Each of you has eagerly taken on the challenges we laid in front of you. You are

tougher, both physically and mentally, than when you arrived here at Fort Lewis a few weeks ago. You have proven yourselves to be the talented, committed young leaders we seek for our Army's officer corps. I strongly urge you to use your new skills and self-confidence to properly prepare next year's MS-IIIs for camp. That is the biggest contribution you can make to those who follow in your footsteps.

To the hundreds of cadre, both ROTC and USAR, a heart-felt thank you for working so hard and patiently to help these impressive cadets grow to their full potential. You should be justifiably proud of your role in the National Advanced Leadership Camp. A special thank you is due the great soldiers and



Col. Daniel S. Challis

leaders of Task Force 2/222 who so skillfully assembled a diverse assortment of mobilized National Guardsmen and Army Reservists from units across the nation to replace I Corps' deployed active duty soldiers. Equally well-deserved thanks go to the soldiers, leaders, and civilian employees of I Corps and the Fort Lewis installation who make this entire operation possible. The U.S. Army Cadet Command - Fort Lewis partnership is a model of mutual support and cooperation.

I wish every cadet and newly commissioned lieutenant graduating from this camp the very best of luck! You point to a very bright future for our Army!

Ruck up & Move Out!

completing camp this year. As you head back for your final year of schooling, I'd like to take a moment to remind you about the meaning of your training here at Fort Lewis. With your successes here, you've taken an important step in becoming a competent second lieutenant. Reflect now about the training you received and apply that with some forward thinking.

Congratulations on

Next year you will very likely be leading troops in combat. We soldiers are in a serious

business, conducting a sobering mission. When assigned to your first duty station, you will be at the critical level of leadership - the platoon and staff-section levels - where soldiers really operate. The reality is that lieutenants and sergeants are on the ground as events unfold. You don't get a "do over" when leading these Americans, so continue to train hard as you prepare for your commission.

No doubt, you've already read stories about the lieutenants serving in Iraq, Korea, Kuwait, Afghanistan and many other places around the world who were cadets last year like you are now. They have been at the point of impact in their units. They



Command Sgt. Maj. Lewis Ferguson

are the leaders who are up close and personal when one or two soldiers are killed or wounded by rogue bands of displaced enemy. They are the leaders who write the letters and bear the weight of responsibility when bad things happen.

Your attitude is vital to preparing for this responsibility. It's the things you do every day to get ready that will pay the dividends later. You won't have the luxury to get ready tomorrow; do everything you can do today, so when (not if) you're leading that platoon in war, you will have done all the correct things to do the job right. You will be the point of impact. *Train hard and be ready.*

Have patience and wait for what you truly desire

By Chap. (1st Lt.) Chris Wallace 13th Regiment Chaplain

Traveling to Fort Lewis, there were several sites I wanted to tour – the Badlands, Mount Rushmore National Monument and Yellowstone were a few. Most of all, I wanted to see buffaloes. I have seen three of the huge, brute beasts in my lifetime and I enjoy seeing the animal on television.

I visited Custer National Park in hopes of seeing buffaloes, but I saw only one, and it was quite far away. So, Yellowstone was my last hope. I was 50 meters from the entrance and on the side of the road were two buffaloes. I was thrilled. I pulled over and took 15 exposures with my camera. I watched them for over 30 minutes, and I felt the trip to Yellowstone was well worth it even if I were not to enter the park. I considered traveling on and covering more ground since I did get to see two buffaloes up close, and if it were anything like

Custer Park, that would be all I would see.

I decided to continue with my visit to the park and I began driving across it. To my great delight, I was held up for 40 minutes as numerous buffaloes crossed the road directly in front of my vehicle. Fifteen miles further down, I was stopped again as more crossed the road. Off to the side was a herd of a few hundred buffaloes. I was thrilled – and to think I considered passing the park after seeing just two buffaloes!

Christians are similarly far too easily satisfied. Jeremiah 2:13 says, "My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water." Christians are often tempted to be sidetracked by busy schedules or the pull of sinful temptation to forsake God, the fountain of living water. The lure is that things seem more satisfying than God. But the end result reveals that only God offers satisfying and life-sustaining enjoyment. Ev-

erything else will turn out to be a broken cistern.

The picture the verse draws is of the old cartoon where there is an illusion of an oasis. But it is merely an illusion, and when the character dives to take a drink in the desert he gets a mouthful of sand. The satisfaction of God, the fountain of living water, is complete. The offers of the world are deceptive and not satisfying.

C.S. Lewis succinctly summed up the idea in a sermon called "The Weight of Glory." He said, "We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

I encourage you to drink deeply from God! Don't be satisfied with anything or anyone less. Don't let the demands of your schedule prevent you from being satisfied with God.



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Col. Daniel S. Challis

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However, said Patterson, digs

Sometimes the team's search goes no farther than being in-country. In Laos, there is a rumor that Americans are willing to pay for bones. It is common belief because the country has little communication and infrastructure. The average Laotian is amazed by the amount of money and

anything for its thousands of missing persons. This leads to interesting situ-

In one of the more peculiar oc-

can be frustrating. "Once, on the site of a F-4 Phantom crash, we dug for 25 days and finally found a data plate. Due to the excellent records of the Air Force we found that the pilot had ejected and been rescued and was living retired in New Jersey. Then they told us to fill the hole back up."

tigation, team members had to scurry

from a helicopter onto bamboo scaffolding, brave the hazards of unexploded ordinance, and dig into the escarpment. But They feel a great deal of job satisfaction when a successful

dig is concluded, .

LOST IN LaoS CTLT cadet to join ongoing hunt for Vietnam-era MIAs

By 2nd Lt. Robert Wilson



This remote Laotian mountaintop has been taped off into a grid that will assist the CILHI team as they search the long-lost crash site of an American aircraft. Every artifact found at the site will be cataloged for identification.

Deep in a forgotten stretch of jungle in Laos, searchers sift through 30-year's accumulation of dirt searching for gold. This gold, however, is not a precious metal, but rather the remains of American servicemen lost in the Vietnam War. A select group of men and women has collected information while attempting to exhume and repatriate the remains of Americans missing for more than 30 years.

This year, Cadet Joann Kennedy, who is a Forensic Chemistry major from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, was selected to go along. Kennedy said she is excited about the upcoming experience and believes she is ready to handle the rigors. "I can't wait," said Kennedy. "I believe my studies leave me well prepared for this experience." Asked if she was squeamish at all at the prospect of recovering human remains, she replied, "Nothing I haven't seen or done before."

Two organizations, Joint Task Force Full Accounting (JTF-FA), and the Central Identification Lab in Hawaii (CILHI), carry out this mission. These organizations, working in tandem, develop information, search for, exhume and attempt to identify remains from around the world. Since its inception in 1992, personnel from JTF-FA have scoured Laos, Vietnam,

Thailand and China in their quest to recover the remains of our fallen warriors. In that time, 147 missions have recovered and identified 573 out of 1,874 missing personnel from the Vietnam conflict. CILHI's mission is broader in reach, with remains from Korea, the South Pacific and Europe reaching it as well.

Teams typically spend 35 days in the field doing what amounts to an archeological dig on the site of a crash or other site likely to house American remains. When remains are found, they are turned over to forensic experts who then attempt to identify them. Fragments are often very small due to the acidity of the local soils and violence of impact when the aircraft crashed.

In recent years, ROTC cadets have had the opportunity to compete for a slot to participate in this noble work. CILHI has been selecting cadets to serve as interns for a monthlong period, including two weeks in Southeast Asia and two weeks in Hawaii. Annually, a single cadet is cho-

Having been a member of JTF-FA and serving alongside the CILHI staff, Col. Dan Patterson of Western Region, U. S. Army Cadet Command offered insights into his experience and what Kennedy may look forward

ations.

Col. Dan Patterson talks with a teammate at the hilltop crash site.

cupy camps set up by JTF-FA, and are then flown out to dig sites across the country. There, they spend about a month slowly digging and sifting through the dirt. Patterson described it as very slow and methodical, like an anthropological dig on the Discovery Channel.

One of the more interesting "digs" during Patterson's tour was the exhumation of the pilot of a B-57 bomber that impacted against a 500foot rock face. To conduct the inves-

to while in Laos. Teams go in and oc- currences related by Patterson, "A Laotian brought a segment of jaw bone to us and, at CILHI, they identified it very quickly ... and found that the bone was from a pilot who's body had been exhumed two years earlier in South Vietnam!"

> Despite occasional setbacks, and having to contend with the jungle, diseases and monsoons, the personnel of JTF-FA and CILHI continue to scour the world in their mission of recovering the bodies of our nation's MIAs.



Warrior Leader Aug. 5, 2003 Patrolling STX This committee is the ultimate leadership lab and is NALC's final challenge to cadets

connaissance. We are also

evaluating every cadet and we

have gotten very positive feed-

back from the cadets' surveys

on this aspect. Another good

learning point is that patrolling

is 100-percent tactical." There

By 2nd Lt. Samantha Schoden

Patrolling STX is the final phase for all cadets who come through National Advanced Leadership Camp. They will finally incorporate every aspect of training they have done so far into three days of non-stop missions, stress and fatigue. This puts the cadets' abilities into a whole new perspective as their leadership is tested in simulated stressful combat situations where exacting tasks are demanded. Here the cadets will also be able to prove that they have formed a cohesive, motivated and proficient platoon in the short time they have gotten to know each other. Patrolling STX is also used to show cadets what they will be actually doing as future lieutenants.

"The patrolling staff consists of 200 personnel. Ninety-five are cadre," said Lt. Col. Mark McManigal, the committee OIC who is from Mississippi State University, "and the rest are from C Company, 22nd Field Artillery from Utah. They are the most outstanding and best support I've seen out of anybody in 20 years," he noted. "This year we added two more missions, which are the movement-to-contact and hasty defense. Those are teamed up with a raid, ambush, link-up and re-



A lone cadet moves cautiously through the tall grass, searching for the OPFOR and wary of ambushes.

are eight patrols that go on simultaneously, each led by the cadre of Team Panther and Team Eagle. What is really exciting for the cadets is the way they arrive to complete their Day-2 missions. They are airlifted into a simulated battlefield by CH-47D Chinook helicopters. The cadets were given prior instructions on how to load and offload from the Chinook. They can look out at the terrain and see how close they are to the trees and watch the shadow of the helicopter bounce off them. A somewhat thrilling and exciting moment, which seems to take away

Once the Chinook lands with the battlefield dust and debris funneling up, the cadets must get off as quickly as pos-♀ sible, avoiding the exhaust $\bar{\mathcal{G}}$ from the helicopter. The apprehension felt on the trip has

from the tension of the flight

out to the battlefield.

now doubled as the cadets are totally involved with Paloma, a fictitious country where the people are threatened by their simulated neighbors, the

Caquetans. The Caquetans are making a constant threat of warfare and the cadets must learn to gain control over this unstable environment. This is not the first time the cadets have heard of beleaguered Palomans, having heard about them their entire duration of camp. The cadets have full knowledge of the rising tensions.

As in past years, Patrolling is a three-ထ္ day event. It is the epitome of cadet training. Every day the cadets must complete two missions. The obstacles are harder and more physically exhausting, unlike in Squad STX where a cadet only led troops for two hours. The cadets must also carry their rucks, sleeping gear and M-16s across great distances during constant maneuvers. One lucky cadet must carry the M-60 machingun. Cadet Davy Ashcraft, University Central Arkansas, was one of those lucky folks, but kept a positive attitude, saying, "I am high speed, low drag." Each team has a patrol leader, assistant patrol leader and squad leaders who must all work together in a much larger organization.

Though there are lane evaluators, the cadets are on their own. This helps to make the situations feel like a real mission. The cadet patrol leader can throw the entire group off by going in the wrong direction – going several meters past their objective – and nothing will be said to them. There is rarely any interference except when the cadre decides to throw in a variable. This will also happen in the battlefield and a cadet must learn to think on his or her feet and become very flexible. Another twist to this year's Patrolling is that the cadets have to deal with more simulated civilians and media.



Much more than just a word, patrolling involves a wide range of activities, including negotiating a variety of terrain features such as this small creek, ravines, woodlands and hills.

The regiment leaves Patrolling STX the same way it came in, airlifted by CH-47D Chinook helicopters.

NBC:

by 2nd Lt. Tamara Gonzales

Gas! Gas! Gas! Those are the three magical words at the Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) range. Cadets repeat these words several times while putting on their Mission-Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) gear on this extremely important day of training. Master Sgt. Scott Vinson, NBC Range NCOIC, explained, "Everyone in the Army needs to know these Skill Level1 common tasks."

The training day begins with classes covering personal protection against NBC attacks, such as reacting to a chemical/biological hazard or attack, wear of the protective mask and how to don the MOPP suit. Cadets become very familiar with the fit of the MOPP gear because they will spend approximately six hours that day in MOPP Level-2. Besides personal protection, cadets also need to know how to take care of their equipment. This subject is taught through the combined class of decontamination of self and individual equipment and maintenance of the gas mask. Cadets also need to know how to take care of others in an NBC-contaminated environment. One example is performing first aid for a nerve agent injury. Another class entails detection of chemical agents using M8 or M9 detection paper. Cadet Charlie Walsh of the University of Alabama said, "The instructors were very knowledgeable and helped square everybody away."

Once cadets complete the classes, they conduct the practice reactionary course (PRC). This is where they receive a reconnaissance mission operations order to locate another assembly area.

Vinson said the lanes "Reinforce what's taught in the classes."

Cadet Kimberlee Lewis of the InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico agrees. "Each event tied well into one another." Sgt. 1st Class Tonya Williams, NCOIC of Station-4, says the purpose of the lanes is to "React to a chemical and/or biological attack." Williams also provided an acronym 'SMAC DMR' as a guide for how to react in a chemical/biological environment.

Upon completion of the practice reactionary course, cadets broke for lunch before continuing with the Leaders Stakes

lanes. This is when cadets "Apply everything they're taught," said Vinson. "They're given a mission and graded on all performance tasks taught at the NBC range." Each lane is approxi-

One of the most feared NALC committees, the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical site is also one of the most important



Moving out on practice reactionary course, these cadets are wearing the full range of protective clothing despite the summer heat. Such exposure to chemical conditions is a crucial part of learning to survive.



Some days are better than others for cadets, but this one in the Gas Chamber could be the worst if they get a big whiff of CS Gas .



Cadets complete their MOPP 4 uniform as they put on protective gloves in preparation for Leaders' Stakes.

mately 100 meters in length with two firebreaks per lane. The cadets begin by running up the hill in MOPP Level-2. Once at the first firebreak, they suit up to MOPP Level-4 and, when given the all clear, they initiate unmasking procedures. The cadets then continue up the hill in MOPP Level-2 and at Firebreak-2, they reach MOPP Level-4. Also at Firebreak-2, they perform first aid on a casualty, take a sample of a chemical agent and perform unmasking procedures. Cadet teams are graded on all performance tasks taught at NBC training and, at the end of the training day, a streamer is presented to the fastest platoon. Lewis says, "The Leaders' Stakes were fun, but also a challenge with running in MOPP gear."

After cadets finish the practice reactionary course, they prepare to enter the gas chamber. Before entering, they go to a station where they are briefed on what to expect, plus procedures for donning, clearing and sealing the mask. Despite this briefing and the procedures, "There is still a high fear-factor and a lot of anxiety," said Vinson. Lewis noted, "You hear the rumors of how the chamber is going to be, however, actually having practice with cadre and tactical officers helps. But I was still a little nervous of the unknown."

Cadets are instructed to roll up the hood of the mask so that it is not touching their necks. The cadets then move to the camphor chamber where they are told to move their jaw and do some other basic movements and exercises to check the seal of the mask. The reason for these procedures is to ensure the masks are sealed properly. If the mask does not work, then those cadets will return to the mask-refitting area. At this area the valves, seals and other parts of the mask will be checked for serviceability.

The cadet will then enter the camphor chamber with a newly-fitted mask and will repeat the same movement procedures. If the mask fails to perform correctly for the second time, the cadet will be issued another mask. Once the mask has been deemed as serviceable in the camphor chamber, cadets proceed to the gas chamber. Many cadets fear this portion of the NBC range. As

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"NBC," cont. from Page 5

Master Sgt. Warren Sanders, Gas Chamber NCOIC, puts it, "The worst part is people fearing it. They panic, start gasping for air and get a larger dosage than if they had remained calm."

Once inside the chamber, the cadets are asked to perform jaw movements, side straddle hops and stretches. The movements are done in order "To instill confidence in their equipment and themselves," said Vinson. The cadets then form lines while the cadets at the front of the line remove their masks and recite their name, university and Social Security number. The cadets then leave the gas chamber relieved to once again breath fresh air. "Once I got out of the chamber, my face and skin were burning, but it was still fun!" exclaimed Cadet Stephanie Rogers of Southern University in Baton Rouge. Sanders says, quoting Capt. Brian Elliot, the gas chamber "Is a rite of passage." Following the gas chamber, cadets turn in their equipment and clean their gas masks.

Walsh said, "These are basic soldiering skills you need to know in case of an NBC attack." Vinson added, "Officers will need to know how to work and operate in a chemical environment." And the Fort Lewis, Wash., NBC Range is just the place to learn!

Royal cadets come to camp

By 2nd Lt. Samantha Schoden

Something is different in the 11th and 12th regiments to pass through National Advanced Leadership Camp. One only needs to stop and listen to notice it or to look out among the cadets. Once again the British cadets are among the ranks of American cadets, and as always, it is a unique experience for all who get the privilege to participate in the exchange program. Each regiment has 20 British cadets in their ranks.

A bunch of pukka swabbies in interesting looking clobbers with bright coloured buffs settled down to try out American skof. One might look at the other and say, "Cheers mate and all the very best." Apparently the British cadets really dig the American food. In other words these new soldiers not only look different in uniform, but have a language that is all their own. This, however, is not a bad thing.

The United States Army prides itself as a large melting pot that is able to take in people from all types of backgrounds and from all over the world. However, most cadets will not have the opportunity to interact and learn from this enriching experience. The cadets will hopefully take full advantage of what they can gain from each other.

Cadet Timothy Sorensen, Lehigh University, commented, "It is really interesting to see their equipment, uniforms and tactics. Their tactics are neat to watch and it is just a little different. We try to fill them in since we are going into the field. It is really interesting to watch them march, too. We had to get used to that. They are good guys and pretty squared away. They are more disciplined than your average Joe around here."



As in the United States Army, the British have opened a wide range of job fields to women.

Cadet Jared Hepler, Wake Forest University, was equally impressed with his overseas comrades. "It's unique. It's unique for sure. It is really interesting to hear how they do stuff. Their culture is a different from ours, but in some ways it is similiar. They like to tell us America is a simplified version of English."

Cadet Martin Snyder, Cambridge, was appreciative of the American cadets. "They are really friendly and made a effort to get to know me. It makes me feel better. I am learning a lot. They are teaching me a hell of a lot because I am acting platoon sergeant. However, we have a lot more freedom. Americans are rigid in where they can go, but they have a little bit of freedom in other areas. I got to do some training that we did not do at Cambridge like the NBC chamber. The food here is better, too. The MREs are better and the canteen food."

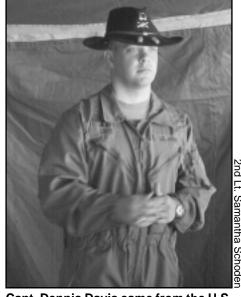
Overall incorporating British troops seems to be a great experience for everyone involved and hopefully it will be a continuing privilege to have them come to camp in the coming years.

Branch reps pitch careers to cadets

2nd Lt. Samantha Schoden

The sun poked its head out to make a beautiful, yet somewhat warm day for the cadets as they went through this year's Branch Orientation. This year, BO was a little different than it was in the past few years. At the cadets' prospective schools, they ponder and evaluate what they imagine their future careers in the Army will be. Then they made a list of their top four choices. This list was then sent to National Advanced Leadership Camp.

As the cadets were preparing for the day they were handed a list of the rotation they would be taking in order to fulfill the needs of their "wish-list." This was all explained to the cadets by 2nd Lt. Caroline Budnik, briefer, who



Capt. Dennis Davis came from the U.S. Army Armor Center at Fort Knox, Ky., to tell cadets why they belong in a tank.

warned the cadets to do the best they could at camp and when they got back to their schools. "Even I forget how important success is here for every individual at NALC. This experience determines a great deal about their future careers." Budnik knows only too well that Branch Orientation can be a sobering reminder of how serious the Army processes the future lieutenants.

After representatives from the Army National Guard and Army Reserves explained their purpose in the missions of the Army, the cadets watched as each branch representative stepped forward and proudly announced their branch, absorbing the responses of the enthusiastic cadets. They were then broken down and told to follow to their briefing area. The cadets all went to four 60-minute briefings, 45 of those minutes were concentrated on the cadre telling cadets why their

branch is the best. Passing by the Signal Corps tent the briefer said, "If someone tells you we're not the best, they are wrong. We are the best tactically and technically in the Army." However, if you step into the Armor tent, the cadets gladly raise their voices and yell, "If you ain't Cav, you ain't @*%*!" Capt. Dennis Davis' crowd pleaser was a picture of a destroyed objective, at which he emphatically stated, "Ultimately, you get to blow stuff up!" Of course this was followed by the proverbial use of the shout "HOO-AH." After the initial briefing the cadets are then given 15 minutes to ask whatever questions they have. To help cadets remember their branch of choice, each committee gives out souvenirs such as cups, carabineers or the ever-handy pen.

Pictures of patriotism: A father's military artwork inspires his son's Army career

By 2nd Lt. Tamara Gonzales

Cadet Ian Dietz paints a verbal scene of lessons learned through his ROTC experiences. However, his lessons really began as a child when he observed his father's interactions with veterans and service members. Dietz's father, Jim Dietz, is an internationally-recognized military and aviation artist.

Ian observed his father's interactions with military personnel and says his father both directly and indirectly influenced his in-

terest in the Army. Directly, of course, was his observation of his father's professional career in military art. Indirectly, Jim's career introduced Ian to many interesting and respected military personalities that both Dietzs looked up to and admired. Ian said, "I saw a personal side of the military that created a desire for me to become like them."

Ian's own experience in the military has widened his knowledge about what it really takes to be a successful soldier. "Growing



Jim Dietz's art accurately portrays the American heroes that impressed Ian Dietz while a youth.

lan Dietz found inspiration in his father's artwork and friends, choosing to serve his country as an Army officer.

up, I saw admirable stuff, but didn't see the hard work it took. I haven't seen all of it yet, but I have a glimpse of the things an effective leader has to take into consideration." Now, instead of only seeing an admirable side of the military, he says he sees the military 'As a complete organization with its strengths and faults, but my initial desire is unaffected."

After-camp opportunities abound

By 2nd Lt. Robert Wilson

Does jumping from airplanes, ascending vertical cliff faces or moving cross-country in a 60-ton monster sound exciting? Every year after NALC Army cadets scatter to the four winds to participate in a variety of follow on training. Options for cadets include several army schools, going to units, or even serving on the Department of the Army staff.

The Basic Airborne Course and Air Assault School are generally well known and serve as a chance for cadets to earn some skill badges. However there are several "other" schools that cadets are offered that help prepare young leaders with a great deal of confidence and skills.

The Mountain Warfare School in Jericho, Vt., consists of two sessions of two weeks each. A winter and summer phase. The summer phase focuses on knots, and rope systems to traverse varied terrain. While the winter phase focuses on cold weather survival, and over snow mobility. This includes instruction in snowshoeing, skiing, and ice climbing.

For those who those who don't enjoying the prospect of freezing there are options that exist in many warmer parts of the globe. CTLT positions are available with maneuver and garrison units worldwide. Cadets spend three weeks serving as a shadow to a second lieutenant with his platoon. Getting a feeling for what they may expect to do on active duty. This may include everything from going to the field on major FTXs in Korea, or serving stateside at an Army Medical Center.

The third major option open to cadets is to serve as an intern on the Army staff, at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. These select cadets work on a variety of issue dealing with manpower, or fiscal issues. Getting a feeling for activities at the higher staff levels of the Army.

These training experiences leave cadets with a greater sense of the organization they are soon to be leaders in, and how the different skills and capabilities it takes for the Army to field a winning team.





Nation's educators visit NALC

Academia meets ROTC at Fort Lewis on the Army's turf

By 2nd Lt. Christy E. Stanley

This year, the Army's National Advanced Leadership Camp (NALC) had 216 extra faces among its ranks. They belong to members of the largest group of people the annual Educators Visit has ever had, so large in fact, that this year's guests will be touring in three groups; the Professors of Military Science, the Educators and the Nurses. The Educators portion of the program is designed to give civilian members of many of the universities around

ROTC cadet. They participated in and observed many events, including the Slide for Life, Field Leadership Reaction Course, Basic Rifle Marksmanship, Confidence Training, the Audie Murphy Assault Course and several command briefings. The educators were also able to partake in two of the best NALC experiences – the chow hall and MREs.

The educators used both their intellectual and physical adeptness to negotiate the obstacles at the Field

> Leadership Reaction Course. Two squads of educators, with assigned squad leaders and team leaders performed to the same tasks as the cadets at NALC 2003, and at the end they were evaluated the same standards. Performing very



It doesn't take a masters degree to master the M-16, just a dedicated NCO as the shooter's mentor.

the nation an opportunity to experience and observe some of what a summer is like for the cadets who attend their institutions.

Most cadets are unaware that the Educators' Visit takes place every year, however many do remember the "civilians" walking around at some of the primary training sites. As 2nd Lt. Debby Cwalina, a graduate of Smith College remembers, "I didn't even know until I returned to NALC this vear that educators had the opportunity to visit camp, but from what I have seen it is a great program." Lt. Col. David Motz, the Chief of the Educator Visit (as well as the Nurse and PMS Visit) and his staff of 14 have been working diligently since early June to make sure the program not only runs smoothly, but also that it is the impressive representation of National Advanced Leadership Camp that it has been in the past.

Each year the Army sponsors a trip for faculty members from a variety of universities that have students participating in ROTC. This year, the educators spent four days exploring the life of an Army

well, each squad was able to complete the obstacles although one squad was allotted a slightly longer time period than the cadets. Members of the squad who completed the "bridge the gap"



They are not "walking the plank," but these college leaders are trying to

obstacle commented that "it was challenging," however, they displayed an outstanding amount of teamwork and completed the task swiftly with efficient use of all of the squad members.

All of the educators echoed the sentiments of Mrs. Betty White, who was very impressed with the NALC experience and expressed that her and her husband were "having a great time." Although many of the



Members of America's academic intelligentsia listen intently to a different kind of instruction than what they administer on their home campuses.

educators looked warily at the Slide For Life, close to 20 brave souls executed the event, which is mandatory for all cadets.

The importance of the educator visit can be seen even more clearly now as the nation is involved in many intense conflicts around the world and begins to evaluate the war in Iraq. University Campuses are often the most vocal outlets of both support and opposition of the government and often the military. By having educators visit NALC to see some actual military training, it is hopeful that these educators will return to their campuses with a better understanding of the military as a whole as well as the role that the military plays on their own campuses. Positive attitudes about the military, especially in areas that may have generated negativity in the past, begins with the educators and the environment they promote at their home institutions. If that attitude can be improved here at NALC, the Army will benefit through the generations of leaders to come.



Hazing at NALC is limited to walking through the fog created by smoke grenades used as a visual obscurant and target marker.